



BUILDING BULLETIN

POOLS

JULY 16, 2025

Bulletin No 25-02

POOL PERMITS

Installation and security requirements for private pools, ponds and spas

PURPOSE

To provide guidance to contractors and the public on when a permit is necessary for the installation of private swimming pools or other water features within the District of Summerland.

REFERENCE

Building Bylaw 2022-002 PART 19 POOL PERMITS

IMPLEMENTATION

Pool building permits are required for pools, wading pools, fishponds, and other artificial bodies of water with a depth of more than 0.6m at any point and an area larger than 5.0m².

REQUIREMENTS

A building permit application for a pool or other water features must:

- a) Be made in the prescribed form and signed by the owner, or a signing officer if the owner is a corporation;*
- b) Include payment of the applicable fees as prescribed in the District's Fees and Charges Bylaw;*
- c) Provide a site plan showing the location and distances of the proposed pool and any accessory buildings in relation to the existing buildings on the property;*
- d) Include construction details for the pool and proposed method of enclosure of the pool area; and*
- e) Include approval of design from the Local Health Authority having jurisdiction, if the pool is accessible for public use.*





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PROFESSIONAL DESIGN

Professional design and field reviews may be required, subject to complexity of the design and the condition of the soils where the pool is to be located.

FENCING

An in-ground swimming pool must be enclosed within a fence constructed without footholds or grips that children may use to climb into the enclosed area, having a minimum height of 1.22m and no openings greater than 100mm at their greatest dimension. The fence or equivalent barrier must be of chain link type material, solid material with a flat vertical surface, or vertically oriented material.



POOL GATE

Access through a fence enclosing a swimming pool, spa, or hot tub must only be through a self-closing and self-latching gate designed and constructed or installed so as to cause the gate to return to a closed position when not in use and be secured by a latch located on the swimming pool, spa or hot tub side of the gate.

If a swimming pool is located above ground, and has vertical sides of at least 1.2m it may be protected from access by fencing the access ladder with a child resistant self-closing and self-latching gate through the fence.

FENCING MUST BE IN PLACE, INSPECTED AND APPROVED PRIOR TO PLACING WATER IN A POOL.

For more information, please review District of Summerland Building Bylaw No 2022-002